

## THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY

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UP-TOWN OFFICE, BROAD-STREET

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STREET.

WEST-END OFFICE, PARK-PLACE

PHARMACY, BELVIDERE AND MAIN

STREETS.

MANCHESTER OFFICE, 120 HULL

STREET.

TUESDAY.....JUNE 22, 1897.

FACTS TO BE REMEMBERED.

1. "The minority representation" plan has not been used in Richmond in any gubernatorial election contest for twenty years.

2. In the gubernatorial contest of 1893 there was a primary election and each precinct here elected its own delegates.

3. Excepting Richmond and three Henrico precincts on the borders of this city, no other communities in this State have adopted the minority plan. Everywhere else the candidate who is the strongest gets the vote of the election division that is voting for delegates to the Roanoke convention. In short, other communities may easily give their solid votes for their favorite candidates, while under our plan our city is practically prohibited from doing so.

Query: Is our plan fair to Richmond?

If it is to become a precedent here how can we ever hope to make our city's influence properly felt in State and district conventions?

## OHIO WARMING UP.

The Republican State Convention of Ohio will meet at Toledo to-day to nominate a State ticket, and to make an announcement of the position of the party with respect to the ensuing campaign.

Ohio is Mr. Hanna's kingdom, and he has "fixed" the convention. It is foreordained, therefore, that Mr. Bushnell will be renominated for Governor and Hanna endorsed for the senatorship. At present, Hanna is holding his seat under gubernatorial appointment, but the endorsement will give him the legislative vote—provided his party wins at the election!

It is also expected—known, in fact—that the Ohio convention will endorse and reaffirm the St. Louis platform, and have something very sugary to say about President McKinley's administrative policy. With McKinley, Hanna, and Sherman, Ohio's three most distinguished Republicans, well provided for, it could not be expected that the convention would find any fault with what is going on at Washington.

However, the Republicans will have to reckon with the Democrats. On all hands, it is conceded that the coming contest in Ohio is going to be a prodigiously fierce one. The situation there is not as it is here. Here the dominant party has only to name a State ticket, and that ticket will win. There are differences of opinion among us as to who ought to be nominated for this, that, or the other place on the State ticket, but whoever is nominated at Roanoke will sweep the State. Not so with the dominant party in Ohio. They the Republicans will have the hardest fight to make that they had had for years. They were only able to carry Ohio last fall by convincing many voters that business prosperity depended upon a Republican victory. All these people have been disappointed. The business depression is keenly felt in Ohio.

No doubt the Republicans will try to persuade the voters that as soon as the new tariff gets into operation fully, it will produce all of the happy results that were predicted for last year's election, but experience shows that it is easier to fool the average man the first time than the second time.

Of course, Hanna's money and the administration's influence will be thrown into the contest upon the Republican side, but the growing popularity of the free-silver doctrine will offset them both. And it is assured in advance that the Democratic State Convention will fully and emphatically endorse and reaffirm all the chief features of the Chicago platform.

Nor will our party in Ohio be without friends who are able to aid it with contributions. Paul Sorg, a liberal giver to our party's cause, is a candidate for Governor, and Proprietor McLean, of the Cincinnati Enquirer, a candidate for the United States Senate. The Enquirer was a free-silver paper in advance of the Chicago convention, and has been very active in the cause.

So the Ohio Democrats will go into the election strong in the affections of the

people and not without such "newsies" of as seem to be indispensable in the Buckeye State.

It would be a great triumph for our State to be able to carry McKinley's "turn down" Hanna. The prize is a valuable one, and will unquestionably inspire each party to put forth its strongest efforts for success.

In a letter to the New York Herald of yesterday, Murat Halstead (a Republican) takes as cheerful a view as possible, but is compelled to make the following significant admissions:

"It is the fashion in Ohio for the Republicans to lose the Legislature, and when a senator of the United States, in the next election after the choice of a Republican Ohio President, and all Republican Presidents elected since Lincoln were Ohio born. The rule is not, however, inviolable."

There is another feature that possesses some awkwardness—the fact that in Ohio they have had three Republican Legislatures in succession—something out of the common; and some of the legislation has been unpopular, the Republican party, of course, being held responsible for it.

The Legislatures of Ohio, Senators and Representatives are elected in blocks in all the counties on county ticket, and the large cities decide whether Republicans or Democrats are to be responsible for United States senators and State legislation.

The cities usually decisive are Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Toledo, and the propensity of the rural Republicans to get up laws about beer and Sunday, to throw away the German vote and many other votes in the cities, amounts to disclosed corruption.

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So, we repeat, if Senator Hoar is wise, he will not put the public on the stand to defend the Senate. If the Senate's reputation is as dear to him as it would be to us, he would better recognize that the body is not like Caesar's wife, to the end of championing investigation whenever a substantial charge of corruption is made. The figures given by Mr. Mills establish the fact that the proposed tariff is, and is meant to be, prohibitory in many respects.

Our Treasury is full to overflowing, but if it were empty the proposed rates never would fit ill. And this is the truth well known. What the Republicans mean to do is to pay off their campaign debts. They are under obligations to the millionaire manufacturers, and these they propose to discharge at the expense of the forgotten man. It is their deliberate purpose to close our ports against the importation of foreign goods of many sorts, so that the protected manufacturers in this country may have the benefit of a market into which no competition shall enter—unless that competition be of their own making.

Well, Mr. Mills charged that these rates, and the higher prices that would in consequence be exacted for domestic products would "take out of the whole annual income of the people of the United States almost \$200,000,000 annually of their earnings." All this, he said, goes to the beneficiaries of the trust fund, to the protected classes, contrary to the doctrine of liberty as written by our forefathers.

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